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U. S. Department of Agriculture.

**WINGS  
DELPHINIUM GARDEN**

Box 3380

PORTLAND, OREGON

**A** GAIN it is our privilege to send forth our yearly folder to Delphinium lovers everywhere, and the number of them is steadily increasing. We desire to express our appreciation for the many spontaneous letters of pleasure and commendation which we have received from Delphinium growers all over the U.S.A. and Canada who have had our seed and seedlings. On another page will be found excerpts from a number of these letters.

When our new seed was harvested last July we issued a small leaflet and in it were listed two new Delphiniums, Jewel, a lovely pure semi-double white, and Pilgrim, a semi-double dark one. These two proved so popular that the seed has been entirely sold out, and although we are listing them we will be unable to fill any orders until the summer.

However, you will find two novelties described with the regular list. Priscilla is a lovely single, like Sally Ann in form but with lots of pink in it, and gives a new color note wherever it appears. Clementine is a rich dark blue and has outstanding beauty.

We are eagerly watching our seedlings first bloom, expecting each year to find new types and shades, and we are not disappointed. This last season we found several of the most delicate pink, and others had touches of rose and one like a light mauve hyacinth which promised so much in beauty. No flowers run such a wonderful scale of color as the modern Delphinium.

While we began with Wrexham Delphiniums exclusively, and still consider them our principal strain, we are constantly on the lookout for new things. At the time we first experimented with Samuel's Wrexhams we tried out seed of Blackmore and Langdon and have retained a number of the finest plants from this seed. Last year we tried out plants from a French firm and have a number of

fine white specimens resulting from this seed. Each year we have continued to purchase seed from plants grown in Watkin Samuel's own garden in Wrexham, Wales. All this in addition to the selection of the seed sown from our own finest plants. Our aim to become to this country what the great European growers are to Europe is gradually becoming realized. We have steadfastly refused to be anything but Delphinium specialists and have never let the commercial spirit overcome our enthusiasm as flower lovers. A great painter, although he may be glad to get a good price for his painting, is always principally animated by love for his art.

## *Wings Delphiniums*

The Delphinium is a very hardy perennial thriving in any climate. It needs deep, rich soil and plenty of water and sunshine. If given these it will reward you without stint; it will bloom twice and in some localities three times each season. It is indescribably beautiful and majestic whether planted en masse or as borders.

To attempt to describe the colors of our Delphiniums is a hopeless task. The colors run the entire gamut of blues from sky and mauve to deepest indigo and purple. The center is often called a bee and many of them resemble a real bee. They give distinction to these lovely flowers and it is a most interesting thing to take careful note of the various types. All of them look as if they were made of a fine quality of fur. Some are white and flat, some are crawling, some are honey yellow. Others are dark brown, bronze or mouse colored, and sometimes you will find brown or light ones feathered with bronze, gold or light green. It is a pleasure to take a magnifying glass into the garden and study these interesting centers.

A fragrant flower has a grace all its own and is particularly dear to the heart of all flower lovers.



SPRINGTIDE

We have noticed for a number of years that although Delphiniums have not been considered in that class that a number of ours have a delicate and sweet perfume and now we find that at least fifty per cent of those growing in our garden are truly fragrant.

For a number of years several flower lovers of Portland, Oregon, had been importing modern Delphinium seed from England and Wales. Two of these amateur enthusiasts, falling in love with the stateliness and wonderful beauty of the Wrexhams, and knowing how few people even knew of their existence, decided to do what they could in bringing these majestic flowers to the attention and appreciation of the general public, hence the Wings Delphinium Garden. By the selection of the finest plants and the destruction of all others, as well as by continued importation of the finest seed obtainable, we have gradually developed a stock of plants and seed which we sincerely believe to be unexcelled here and abroad, both in form and color.



We grow Delphiniums exclusively and our garden is small—less than an acre. This makes it possible for us to give close attention to every plant and to prevent pollination from inferior blooms.

Some dealers in gems have large quantities of jewels of all grades of excellence; others have only diamonds of the first water and their entire stock of precious stones can be kept in a very small strong box. The Wings Delphinium Garden has chosen the latter way. Great works of art are not produced by the thousands in factories; neither can the finest flowers be produced by the thousands in large fields like grain.

All flower-minded people feel the charm of a lovely garden, and the garden in which Delphiniums are loved and grown in masses is the most beautiful of all. Gardening is just as much an art as painting, sculpture and poetry are, and there are gardeners who take great joy in painting garden pictures of the most entrancing colors and shades. If you have never tried this, do so, and paint one of blue splen-



dor with these lovely things, for they will bring a radiant atmosphere into your garden and people will come from far and near to gaze in happy appreciation. You will be including in your picture many hummingbirds and butterflies, as well as bees, for they love all *Delphinium* and help by pollinating to bring about more wonderful combinations of color than you have yet seen.

The mild climate of Western Oregon is especially favorable for developing perfection in these flowers and their hardy character enables them to do well in more severe climates.

## *Culture*

We sow seed in well drained boxes in rich, mellow soil which is thoroughly saturated with water before seed is sown. Sow in very shallow drills not too crowded and cover very thinly, from one-sixteenth to one-eighth of an inch. Press down with a board. Seeds germinate slowly, sometimes a whole month before plants appear. Keep shaded and moist during period of germination. Watering must be carefully done so as not to wash the seed out of the ground. More failures are occasioned by sowing too deep or letting get dry during germination than from any other cause. During winter or early spring, sowing can be done in a greenhouse or warm room, but not too warm, not over 55-60 degrees F., or plants will "damp off".

Raising plants from seed presents no special difficulty, and in each package of seed are a hundred potential promises of beauty; but for success care and patience are necessary. Plant out in the open when size of plants and temperature are suitable.

These perennials will do well in any rich garden soil, well fertilized, cultivated and watered. When plants develop into clumps, these should be two feet apart. We use raw bone meal as a fertilizer.

The arch enemy of the *Delphinium* is the slug and young seedlings must be vigilantly watched. Scatter coarse sand around your plants in winter and coarse coal ashes on crowns of older clumps. Slugs cannot thrive in either.

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We are members of both American and British *Delphinium* Societies.





VANITY FAIR (*exact size*)

## *Special*

About two years ago or a little over we began sending baby seedlings by mail to those who do not wish to expend the time and care involved in raising plants from seed. These seedlings are from our choicest named varieties and if you buy them you will have plants unexcelled both as to form and color. Seedlings planted in the fall will be good sized plants next season and bloom twice. Planted in the spring they will bloom once the same season. While it is not easy to send large clumps long distances, these seedlings can be mailed all over the United States with little danger of injury and almost any time during the year when the temperature is not too

extreme. When we began offering these seedlings, we set the price at \$5.00 for two dozen. We did not know whether we could continue to sell them at this price, but they have proven so popular that we have concluded to continue at this price for at least another year. No order accepted for less than two dozen. Ready to ship April 1.

We frequently receive letters from customers asking us to label each seedling. As these seedlings are small and we have never seen them bloom it is not possible to grant their request.

## Seed

We offer the following: Mixed seed, over 100 seeds in a package, for \$1.00; named varieties \$1.50, except Jewel; Jewel, \$3.00 a package; mixed named varieties \$2.00.

*Springtide* — Large semi-double Rosalene Pink. Outer petals Sky Blue banded Rosalene Pink, and inner petals Rosalene Pink. Irregular white bee.

*Joan of Arc* — Very large semi-double. Outer petals Lyons Blue, tipped Hyacinth Violet. Inner petals Hyacinth Violet. Large dark brown furry bee. Striking flower.

*Vision* — Large single Forget-Me-Not Blue. Three petals are marked with pale Hortense Violet. Small guard petals are Hortense Violet curving over bee. Vision is from Watkin Samuel's Queen Mauve.

*Sally Ann* — Large single Mazarine Blue. Petals heavily tinted with Mallow Pink. Small dark bee.

*Robin Hood* — Large semi-double. Outer petals are Phenyl Blue and inner petals are Manganese Violet. White spreading bee.

*Good Morning* — Wonderful single, frosted pale Forget-Me-Not Blue, tinged with Persian Lilac. Small white eye. Large flowers.

*Millicent* — Semi-double Forget-Me-Not Blue, iridescent, faintly tinged with Mallow Pink.

*Vanity Fair*—Large semi-double with outer petals shaded Forget-Me-Not Blue. Inner petals pale Ampere Purple. Brown bee, feathered gold.

*Paul Revere*—Semi-double Hortense Violet. Bronze bee. Large flat flower.

*Feathers*—Perfect single Hortense Violet shaded Smalt Blue. Gold bee with three tiny white feathers. Lovely spike of flowers.

*Blue Zephyr*—Single Ultramarine Blue. Mouse colored bee.

*Pilgrim*—Very large flat semi-double, dark Petunia Violet, unusual bee, half white edged Petunia Violet and half Petunia Violet edged white.

*Jewel*—Beautiful semi-double, pure white.

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*All seed of Pilgrim and Jewel sold out. Orders taken for summer delivery.*

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*Clementine*—Large Single Bradley Blue, three petals banded Roods Violet. Good sized white spreading bee, tipped with Roods Violet. Strikingly beautiful flower.

*Priscilla*—Large single Cameo Pink over Wedgewood Blue.

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*All colors described are based on Ridgway's Color Chart.*

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*We will hereafter confine our business solely to the sale of seed and baby seedlings.*

*All orders must be accompanied by cash, check or money order. No C. O. D. orders filled.*

*We do not break seed packets. Any seed sold by us will germinate if properly treated and we cannot be responsible for non-germination due to careless handling. We make no exceptions to these rules. We are not wholesalers; our efforts are directed towards quality rather than quantity; however, on 10 packets of seed or 10 dozen baby seedlings we will give 20% off. On larger orders we might make special arrangement for discount.*

## *Excerpts of Letters*

Watertown, N. Y., July 24, 1929.

A year ago last January I purchased a couple of packages of your mixed Delphinium seed which gave me a very beautiful display, and which was the talk of many flower lovers in this section.

Middletown, N. Y., July 23, 1929.

In the spring of 1928 I bought some of your Delphinium seed. Although it was a very unfavorable season I had over a hundred plants. In June of this year at the show of the Middletown Garden Lovers Club I won all the honors in the Delphinium Class. My first prize spike was a perfect picture of your Sally Ann. I had two spikes on one plant. I broke the best one in cutting but the other was good enough to win. The Delphinium Class was the largest in the show and there were some nice ones, but not quite as good as mine. I have many orders for plants but do not care to part with mine.

Middletown, N. Y., July 5, 1929.

Some of your plants took the prize at our last Flower Show so I want to try some myself.

Steubenville, Ohio, March 4, 1929.

I received a package of your seed two years ago and had some wonderful plants but did not realize their beauty until I had given most of them away. I am anxious now to have a garden of your plants, they are so wonderful.

*From a Landscape Architect:*

Boston, Massachusetts, January 25.

I have grown your seed in my own garden . . . and have had most delightful results with it.

Bridgeport, Connecticut, July 24, 1929.

I want to tell you of the wonderful success I have had with a packet of your Delphinium seed. I planted them as your folder directed, this was early March a year ago. This year I had six of the most gorgeous Delphiniums I have ever seen. Glorious blooms which dwarfed every other Delphinium in my garden. And the blooms lasted three times as long as the ordinary ones, especially the laterals, which were perfectly beautiful too. They are my pride and joy and I had the pleasure of bringing the Garden Club to see them and hearing them declare they were the finest they had ever seen.

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## *Special 1930 Offer*

**F**OR the last two years we have had a special sale of seeds of our choicest Mixed Named Varieties at half price. This year we add a special sale of baby seedlings from the same choice seed.

We now offer five packages of our choice Mixed Named Varieties at \$5.00, the regular price of which is \$2.00 a package, or \$10.00 for five.

Also one hundred baby seedlings for \$10.00, the regular price being two dozen for \$5.00 or \$19.00 a hundred.

This offer is good only for lots of five packages of seed or more. And for one hundred seedlings or more, and only as long as seed and seedlings hold out.

The rule for our general sales also applies to this. Cash must accompany every order.

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# WINGS DELPHINIUM GARDEN

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Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, July 24, 1929.

I am sending you a picture of our Delphiniums which I raised from your seed. They have been in bloom for the past four weeks and have been one continual pleasure to us and our friends. I cut a vase for the Horticultural Society last night and it made a hit with the members. Sent another to the Wauwatosa bank as a courtesy vase. *The picture of these Delphiniums appeared in the Milwaukee Journal.*

Wausau, Wisconsin, July 23.

I believe I have found the home of real Delphiniums. Last year's seed sure brought some wonderful flowers. I believe I have one of the finest collections of Delphiniums in this part of the country.

Cleveland, Ohio, March 3, 1929.

We have seen your Delphiniums and want to push them in our nursery. They are truly wonderful.

Winchester, Tennessee, January 29.

I planted a packet of your seed last spring and had some of the most exquisite blossoms in the fall I have ever seen. I want to try them again.

Harrisburg, Virginia, June 13.

A year ago a friend who visited your garden gave me one of your folders. Since then I have intended ordering seed but neglected to do so. This week at a Flower Show of the Spottswood Garden Club an exhibition of Delphiniums which took the blue ribbon and attracted much attention had been grown from your seeds, so the exhibitor told us. Now I want a package.

Hollywood, California, December 18, 1929.

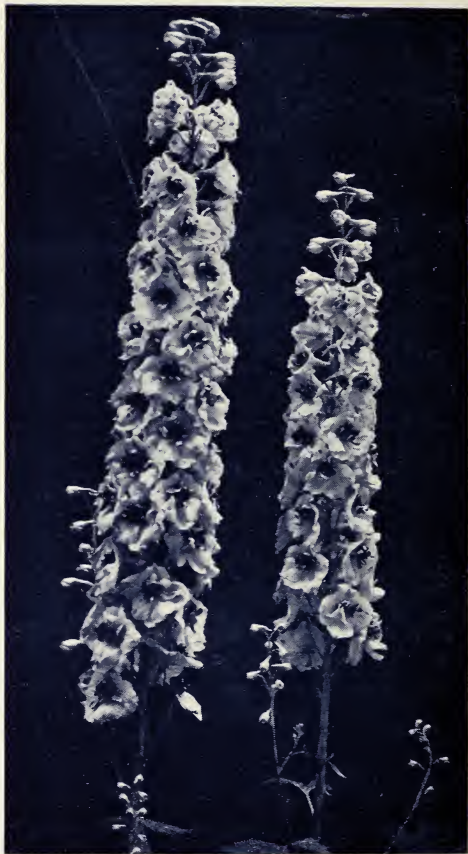
I want to tell you about the Delphiniums which I raised from the seed you sent. The variety and richness of color I am sure could not have been surpassed anywhere. Our neighbors who have lived here forty years said they had never seen such Delphiniums in Southern California.

Oakville, Man., Canada, Jan. 11, 1929.

I bought a packet of seeds several years ago from you and although not very successful in securing germination, the blooms from the plants I secured have been so outstanding that I consider the money a very fine investment. I have been greatly pleased with them.

Woodbridge, Ont., Canada, January 15, 1929.

I got seed from you last spring and in the fall had as fine specimens of blooms as I have ever seen.



*Vision*

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